

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 15, and 18 have been amended. Claims 13, and 14 have been canceled. Claims 4, 5, 10, and 11 have been withdrawn. Claims 1- 12, and 15-20 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1, 7, 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sawada (U.S. Patent No. 6,198,495).

Claims 13 and 14 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Office Action sets forth that Sewada discloses “generates at least one offset sync signal having first and second sensor detection periods based on the sync signal generated based on the at least one of the first laser diode and the second laser diode(outputs of sensors A and D based on the detection of laser beams L1 and L2 and represented by the deviation time T2 as shown in Figs. 11E-G)

By way of review, Sewada discloses the detection signal of the index sensor 140 is supplied to an index signal(synchronization signal) generation circuit 37, and index signals (synchronization signals) S1 and S2 to respectively control the start of recording by the laser beams L1 and L2 are formed by the index signal generation circuit 37(col. 8, lines 6-11, and see FIG. 6-emphasis added). It clearly shows that index signals S1 and S2 to respectively control laser beams L1, and L2 disclosed in Sewada but fails to disclose “generates at least **one offset sync signal having first and second sensor detection periods based on the sync signal generated based on the at least one of the first laser diode and the second laser diode**” as recited in claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that Sewada does not disclose the invention recited in claim 1.

In addition, claim 7 is deemed patentable due at least to the same reasons of claim 1, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS:

As mentioned above, at page 5 of the Office Action, claims 2-3, 6, 8, 12 and 15-18 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

However, reconsideration of claims 2-3, 6, 8, and 12 is respectfully requested based upon

the reasons mentioned above.

Claims 13, and 14 have been cancelled and the limitations thereof have been incorporated into claims 15, and 18. Thus, reconsideration of claims 15, 16, 17, and 18 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

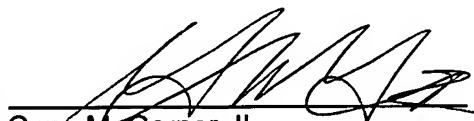
Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

Sept. 19, 2006

By:



Gene M. Garner, II
Registration No. 34,172

1201 New York Ave, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501